



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 8913
Yoko SUZUKI et al. : Docket No. 2001-1792A
Serial No. 10/000,304 : Group Art Unit 3652
Filed December 4, 2001 :
TDS

SUBSTRATE TRANSPORT APPARATUS,
POD AND METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

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after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**
- (2) the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

- a. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- b. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

- a. a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

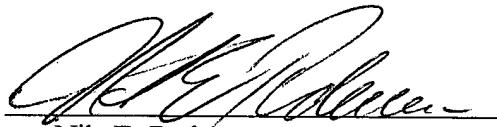
- b. a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
- d. the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

5. A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoko SUZUKI et al.

By



Nils E. Pedersen
Registration No. 33,145
Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krl
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
June 12, 2003

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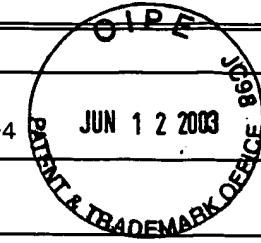
FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: June 12, 2003

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2001-1792ASERIAL NO.
10/000,304

JUN 12 2003

APPLICANT
Yoko SUZUKI et al.FILING DATE
December 4, 2001GROUP
3652

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	2001/0011640	8/2001	Suzuki et al.			
	AB	4,967,295	10/1990	Yamauchi et al.			
	AC	6,436,849	8/2002	Hasunuma et al.			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AJ	1297882A1	4/2003	EP			
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AO	Shoko ITO et al., "Wafer ambient control for Agile FAB", 0-7803-6731-6/01/\$10.00©2001 IEEE, pgs. 121-124.
	AP	
	AQ	

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED